

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02

SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 /046 W

-----016017 201906Z /43

O R 201851Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5868

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4768

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, BL

SUBJ: EMBASSY ASSISTANCE TO N.Y. DAILY NEWS REPORTER

1. SUNDAY, JUNE 19 AT 4:04 PM EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER, JOHN CURRY RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM MARINE GUARD HICKERSON WHO SAID HE HAD CALL ON ANOTHER LINE FROM NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER (SIC). THE REPORTER WAS CALLING FROM A PAY PHONE OUTSIDE LA PAZ PRISON (PANOPTICO). HE SAID THAT PRISON AUTHORITIES HAD CONFISCATED CAMERAS OF HIS PHOTOGRAPHER AND HE COULD NOT GET THEM BACK.

2. DUTY OFFICER CALLED CONSUL EDWARD MILBURN TO OBTAIN THE PHONE NUMBER OF THE PANOPTICO AND INFORM HIM OF THE SITUATION. DUTY OFFICER THEN CALLED AND SPOKE TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF PANOPTICO, ALCAIDE DIAZ, AND EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE CALL FROM THE REPORTER AND ASKED THAT THE CAMERAS BE RETURNED. DIAZ EXPLAINED THAT THEY WOULD RETURN THE CAMERAS BUT WOULD HAVE TO KEEP THE EXPOSED FILM SINCE THE PHOTOGRAPHER HAD TAKEN UNAUTHORIZED PICTURES INSIDE THE PANOPTICO. THE DUTY OFFICER THEN ASKED TO SPEAK WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHER, TIMOTHY ROWS. MR. ROWS SAID HE WAS ON COMMISSION WITH THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS AND HAD DONE WORK FOR TIME MAGAZINE, ETC.; HE SPOKE WITH AN ENGLISH ACCENT. ROWS ADMITTED HAVING TAKEN PHOTOS IN THE PRISON AND WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH LEAVING THE UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPOSED FILM AS LONG AS HE COULD GET THE CAMERAS BACK. THE DUTY OFFICER TOLD HIM ALCAIDE DIAZ HAD PROMISED TO RETURN THEM BUT WOULD KEEP THE EXPOSED FILM UNTIL MONDAY WHEN A DECISION WOULD BE MADE BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE PANOPTICO ON WHETHER OR NOT TO RETURN THE FILM. MR. ROWS AGREED TO THIS AND TOOK NOTE OF THE DUTY OFFICER'S NAME AND HOME PHONE IN CASE OF ANY FURTHER PROBLEMS.

3. AT 5:05 PM, CRAIG KAPTAS (PHONETIC SPELLING) THE DAILY NEWS REPORTED CALLED TO THANK THE DUTY OFFICER FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN GETTING BACK THE CAMERAS. HE SAID HE WAS WORRIED BECAUSE THE PHOTOGRAPHER HAD BEEN INSIDE THE PRISON AND HE HAD BEEN OUTSIDE AND HE FELT THE PRISON AUTHORITIES MIGHT HAVE DETAINED MR. ROWS OR CONFISCATED HIS CAMERA. MR. ROWS ALSO THANKED THE DUTY OFFICER FOR HIS HELP.

4. CONSUL MILBURN WAS INFORMED OF THIS SITUATION, AND SAID HE WOULD SPEAK WITH THE GOVERNOR OF PANOPTICO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON MONDAY, JUNE 20.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2097821
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EMBASSY ASSISTANCE TO N.Y. DAILY NEWS REPORTER
TAGS: CASC, BL
To: STATE
Type: TE
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